

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIEP-02 SAB-01 /139 R

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ARA DUTY OFF.:GHIGH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CO

SUBJECT: FMD ANNOUNCEMENT

REF: BOGOTA 10440, STATE 252050

1. PROPOSED GOC ANNOUNCEMENT OF FMD AGREEMENT
REPORTED IN BOGOTA 10440 OBVIOUSLY A DOCUMENT FOR INTERNAL
CONSUMPTION DESIGNED TO BUILD POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR THE
PROGRAM. WE ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE PHRASING
WHICH INDICATES THAT THROUGH U.S.-COLOMBIAN AGREEMENT
QUOTE FINANCING OF THE PROGRAM IS GUARANTEED UNQUOTE.
IF REPORTED IN THE U.S. PRESS THIS PHRASING COULD BE
MISINTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION IS NOT
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SUBJECT TO THE USUAL CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS REVIEW

PROCESS. THIS COULD CREATE POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING WITH OUR CONGRESS THAT WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID. IN FACT, AS GOC IS AWARE, THE AGREEMENT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES THAT THE U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS. WE WOULD THEREFORE PREFER SOME OTHER WORDING INDICATING THAT FINANCING OF THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN ARRANGED, OR AGREED UPON, OR SOME EQUIVALENT WORDING.

2. WE ASSUME SENIOR GOC OFFICIALS ARE WELL AWARE THAT EVEN IF URABA REGION BECOMES AFTOSA FREE, IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THAT REGION WOULD BE ABLE TO SELL ITS ANIMAL PRODUCTS IN AFTOSA-FREE AREAS OF THIS HEMISPHERE.

GOC ANNOUNCEMENT PRESUMABLY REFERS TO OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD, WHERE SUCH POTENTIAL DOES EXIST. WE WOULD BE CONCERNED IF FARMERS OF THE REGION GAINED FALSE IMPRESSION THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO SELL THEIR PRODUCTS IN THE U.S. OR OTHER AFTOSA-FREE AREAS OF THIS HEMISPHERE AS A RESULT OF THIS PROGRAM.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: A. UNLESS EMBASSY HAS SERIOUS OBJECTION, IT IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE GOC OF OUR CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE REPORTING IN U.S. PRESS OF QUOTE GUARANTEED FINANCING UNQUOTE FOR PROGRAM AND TO REQUEST THAT DIFFERENT PHRASING, SUCH AS ARRANGED, OR AGREED UPON, OR SOME EQUIVALENT WORDING BE SUBSTITUTED. B. WITH REGARD TO PROBLEM MENTIONED IN PARA 2 ABOVE, EMBASSY SHOULD CALL TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE GOC OFFICIALS THAT SALES TO AFTOSA-FREE COUNTRIES OF THIS HEMISPHERE VERY UNLIKELY BECAUSE OF STRICT REGULATIONS OF COUNTRIES CONCERNED. EMBASSY SHOULD SUGGEST THAT GOC CONSIDER CLARIFYING THIS PART OF ANNOUNCEMENT WITH RESPECT TO LIKELY FUTURE MARKETS, IN ORDER TO AVOID LATER DISAPPOINTMENTS AT INABILITY TO SELL TO AFTOSA-FREE COUNTRIES IN THIS HEMISPHERE. RUSH

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